

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Applicant acknowledges, with thanks, the office action dated April 15, 2009. The Examiner's acceptance of the drawings filed on April 20, 2006, is noted with appreciation. Claims 1 and 5 have been amended. No new matter has been added as it is disclosed in previously presented claims 12 and 16. Claims 12 and 16 have been canceled without prejudice. Accordingly, Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 8-11, and 13-15 are currently pending. Reconsideration of the application as currently amended is respectfully requested.

Prior-Art Matters

Claims 1, 4, 5, 8, 10, 11, and 13-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,479,350 to Newton et al. (*hereinafter*, "Newton"). Claims 2, 6, and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Newton, in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,329,842 to Hoskinson.

Claims 12 and 16 were objected to as being dependent upon rejected base claims, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. Accordingly, independent claim 1 has been amended to include the elements of claim 12 and thus should be in condition for allowance. Similarly, independent claim 5 has been amended to include the elements of claim 16 and thus should be in condition for allowance.

Claims 2, 4, and 9-11 depend directly from claim 1 and therefore contain each and every element of claim 1. Claims 6, 8, and 13-15 depend directly from claim 5 and therefore contain each and every element of claim 5. Therefore, for the reasons already set forth for claim 1 and 5, claims 2, 4, 6, 8-11, and 13-15 should be in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

Withdrawal of these rejections is requested for the reasons set forth and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited. If there are any fees necessitated by the foregoing communication, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0902, referencing our Docket No. 10058/00005.

Date: _____

2/5/09

Respectfully submitted,



Susan L. Mizer
Registration No. 38,245
TUCKER ELLIS & WEST LLP
1150 Huntington Bldg.
925 Euclid Ave.
Cleveland, Ohio 44115-1414
Customer No.: 23380
Tel.: (216) 696-3466
Fax: (216) 592-5009